



# United States Navy Biography

## **HMCM (FMF/SW/AW) Rafael D. Felipe Command Master Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery**

Master Chief Felipe joined the Navy on 04 March 1988 and completed Recruit Training in San Diego, California.

Following completion of recruit training he reported to Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego, CA for Hospital Corps "A" School. In August of 1988, Master Chief Felipe reported to Field Medical Service School, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Upon completion of FMSS he reported to his 1<sup>st</sup> duty station Portsmouth Naval Hospital and served as a general duty Corpsman.

In April 1990, Master Chief Felipe transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where he was assigned as senior line company Corpsman, for weapons company 3rd Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Marines. During this tour he was advanced to Petty Officer Third class and deployed onboard the USS INCHON LPH-12 and USS WASP LHD-1.

In June of 1993, Master Chief Felipe reported to Operating Room Technician C-School, NSHS, Portsmouth VA. While attending Operating Room School he was advanced to Petty Officer Second Class. Upon successful completion of school Master Chief reported to Portsmouth Naval Hospital in January 1994. During this tour he was assigned as senior Technician for the Neurosurgery and Orthopedics Surgery Departments.

In November 1996, Master Chief Felipe transferred to USS KEARSARGE LHD-3, during this tour he was advanced to Petty Officer First Class and participated in two major Mediterranean deployments and several exercises.

In February 2000, he reported to NSHS, Portsmouth, VA for instructor duty, during this tour he served as LPO Surgical Technology School, He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in September 2001 and subsequently assigned as LCPO for Pharmacy, Advanced Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Endoneurodiagnostic schools.



In September 2003, he reported to 3D FSSG and assumed the duty as LCPO Charlie Company 3d Medical Battalion, he was promoted to SCPO in May 2004.

He reported to NNMC Bethesda in June 2007 and was assigned as LCPO for Operational Readiness. While at Bethesda he deployed to Afghanistan as LCPO for Forward Surgical Team in support of the Army 30<sup>th</sup> MEDCOM. In May 2009 he was promoted MCPO. Upon completion of deployment he returned to NNMC and was reassigned as Deputy Command Master Chief.

After a successful tour as Deputy CMC at Bethesda, he reported to BUMED in September 2012 and assumed the role of Command Master Chief and Senior Enlisted Leader for Operations (M3).

He is qualified as Fleet Marine Force Warfare Specialist, Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist and Master Training Specialist. His personal awards include Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three Awards) and numerous campaign medals and ribbon.